**Maine Maritime Museum Library**
243 Washington Street
Bath, Maine 04530-1638
(207) 443-1316, ext. 328

# Inventory for Manuscript Collection MS-1

# Barnes Family, Bagley Family, and Preble Family Papers, 1811-1939

by
Dana Anthony

January 1999

Shelf feet: .5
Number of boxes: 1 1/2

## COPYRIGHT RESTRICTION

The material described herein is the physical property of the Maine Maritime Museum Library. **Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors of the various items, or to their legal representatives, or to Maine Maritime Museum.** For further information, consult the library staff.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research." If a user later uses a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if fulfillment of the order is judged in violation of copyright law.

It is the user's responsibility to understand the copyright law concerning the use of the historical documents contained in this library.

**Copyright (C) 1999 by the Maine Maritime Museum.**

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Maine Maritime Museum Library.

## Abstract

**Bagley family**.

Barnes family, Bagley family, and Preble family papers, 1811-1939.

1 1/2 Boxes (5/8 shelf foot).

Seafaring families in Woolwich, ME.

Papers of the Barnes, Bagley, and Preble families primarily relating to seafaring activities and family business throughout the nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. The majority of the papers are centered on two captains, William Barnes (1797-1882) and William Henry Bagley (1838-1884). These are papers that revolve around the seafaring activities of these two men. William Bagley married William Barnes' daughter, Laura M. Barnes (1843-1884). Bagley and his wife were lost at sea when the **Levi C. Wade** (ship) went down in 1884. The collection also includes the land deeds of a number of Preble family members. The Prebles are related to the Bagley and Barnes families. There are some later papers, dating to the early 1900s, which deal with financial affairs.

Gift of the Sarah Bagley Bousfield Estate in 1967: G67.2228-G67.2240, G67.2356-G67.2357. More material came from that Estate in 1969 – G69.3262-G69.3279. Later additions are gifts from Dr. Charles E. Burden in 1970: G70.153.36-G70.153.39.

Finding aid in repository.

Added Entries: Barnes, William, *Captain* (1797-1882); Bagley, William Henry, *Captain* (1838-1884); Wright, Sarah (Bagley); Woolwich (ME); Shipping; Barnes family; Bagley family; Preble family; Bagley, Laura M. (Barnes) (1843-1884), **Levi C. Wade** (Ship); Ship captains; Ship captains' wives; Women and the sea; **Enterprise** (Brig, USN)

## Acquisition

Papers were donated by the estate of Sarah (Bagley) Wright Bousfield in 1967 and 1969. These papers are identified by the accession numbers G67.2228-G67.2240, G67.2356-G67.2357 and G69.3262-G69.3279. Before her death, Mrs. Bousfield sold some of the papers through an antique shop in Richmond, owned by Mr. & Mrs. Nye. Dr. Charles E. Burden found some of the papers for sale there, purchased them, and made them additional donations to the collection in 1970. These additional papers are identified by accession numbers G70.153.36-G70.153.39.

## Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

## Physical Condition

Documents are all in good condition. Some of the documents have fading ink. Others are more brittle and fragile. A very few have small rips or holes in them. The majority of documents are crisp and legible.

## Historical Note

William Barnes was born on February 17, 1797 in Berwick, ME. He went to sea at age fourteen. He was the youngest sailor aboard the U.S.S. **Enterprise** when she engaged in her famous battle against the H.M.S. **Boxer**. He became a master mariner at age twenty-six. In 1825 he married Sarah Farnham. They had eight children: Warren, Mary, William, Frances, Sarah, Vesta, Ellen, Emma, and Laura, according to the 1850 census. William Barnes was the master of numerous vessels including **St. Cloud** (bark), **Angeline** (brig), **John** (schooner), **Harriet** (schooner), **Bordeaux** (brig), **Wabash** (ship), **Rhine** (ship), **Mongolia** (ship), **Augustine** (brig), and **Norway** (ship). He died January 3, 1882.

William and Sarah's daughter Laura M. married William Henry Bagley of Woolwich, ME. William Bagley was born in 1838 in Durham, ME, and later moved to Woolwich. He was also a sea captain, involved in trade to southern and foreign ports. In 1884 both William and Laura Bagley were lost at sea when the **Levi C. Wade** (ship) disappeared without a trace.

The Preble family was also of Woolwich. Their lineage includes several sea captains. They are related to the Bagley and Barnes families.

## Scope and Content

### Series Description

Series I: Bagley Family Papers

The Bagley Family papers are comprised mainly of the papers of Captain William Bagley. These papers include the logbook from the **Levi C. Wade** (ship), an account book, insurance papers, and the journal of Laura Barnes Bagley, Captain Bagley's wife, during her voyage in 1880. There are no personal correspondence included in this series. The Bagley series is also comprised of the financial correspondence o f Sarah Bagley Wright. These papers include receipts of stock sales and correspondence with banks and investment firms.

Series II: Barnes Family Papers

The majority of the Barnes family papers are the papers of William Barnes. They include his personal correspondence, the personal correspondence to his

wife, his ship's papers, his ship's account books, and newspaper clippings. There are no logbooks in this series.

Series III: Preble Family Papers

The Preble family papers series consists of six land deeds from the early nineteenth century in Woolwich, ME.

## Description of the Papers

The collection consists of shipping and financial related correspondence regarding the Bagley, Barnes, and Preble families. There are insurance papers, shipping instructions, logbooks, and detailed accounting books. The collection also has a number of personal letters.

**Box 1**

Folder 1 contains the shipboard journal (L-16) of Laura M. Bagley during a voyage of the **Levi C. Wade** (ship) in 1880. It spans the length of the entire journey. The journal is noteworthy because it was kept by a woman aboard a vessel but also because it was kept consistently. The detail of life aboard as a passenger fills the gap left by journals of seamen on passages.

Folder 2 contains the first half of a logbook from the **Levi C. Wade** (ship). It begins in 1878 and ends in 1879. The second half of the log is in folder 3, spanning the years 1879-1881. The log contains information on the weather, ports of call, health aboard the ship, and general information about the travels of the **Levi C. Wade** (ship).

Folder 4 contains an account book from the **Levi C. Wade** *(*ship). The book includes entries on the wages of the crew. There are minute details in this book such as the deduction from final pay for tobacco or cash advances given to the crew when they were in port. This means that there is a detailed listing of the pay but also of the crew.

Folder 5 contains the insurance papers for the **Levi C. Wade** (ship). These begin in 1881 and continue until 1887. The **Levi C. Wade** *(*ship) was lost in 1884 making the last of these papers about recovering the money for the loss. The papers also appraise the value of the Bagley estate after the death of Captain Bagley in 1884.

Folder 6 is the life insurance claims of Laura and William Bagley after their deaths, 1885. These are the two policies which include the settlements made by the insurance companies following the deaths of both William and Laura Bagley.

Folder 7 contains an account book for the **St. Cloud** (bark) which was captained by William Bagley. The record goes from 1875-1877. After these years it is clear that another member of the family used the account book to keep securities accounts in. This second use of the book goes from 1921 to 1949.

Folder 8 contains thirty-one letters and receipts relating to the buying and selling of securities for Sarah Bagley Wright.

Folder 9 contains the personal correspondence to William Barnes. Two of the letters are from his children. In one letter William Barnes' daughter, Mary, is begging to be allowed to leave the female seminary she is attending. The second letter to William Barnes was from his daughter Mary. She writes the letter because her mother, having given birth the day before and being bled, was not feeling up to it.

Folder 10 is the personal correspondence to Mrs. Sarah Barnes. The dates of the correspondence range from 1829 to 1852. There is a letter regarding a business transaction involving wool. There is a letter from her husband, William, letting her know that he reached port safely. Like the letters to her husband there is also a letter from her daughter asking to be allowed to leave the female seminary. In Mrs. Barnes personal correspondence, however, there is a second letter from the same daughter. This letter is addressed to Mrs. Barnes as well as another sister. In the file is a letter, dated April 20, 1851, telling Mrs. Barnes that her son had died.

Folder 11 is the folder containing nine sight drafts for William Barnes. These drafts are from banks for payment of freight. They range in date from 1834-1844.

Folder 12 contains various personal bills incurred by William Barnes. These start in 1828 and continue until 1852. There are twenty bills in this folder, for items like tuition, plates, hauling fees, and tea and coffee.

**Box 2**

Folder 1 contains bills of lading (1824-1845) for the **Volt** (brig), **Norway** (ship), **Angolan** (brig), and the **Bordeaux** (brig). These documents verify the condition and packing of the shipment, and tell exactly what the vessels were carrying.

Folder 2 contains government documents, pertaining to ships captained by William Barnes. The first is for the **John** (schooner, 1835). The document makes William Barnes, Master Mariner, the representative for the men attempting to sell their vessel. The second document (November 7, 1854) makes William Barnes one-fourth owner of the **John** *(*schooner). The third document is a customs document, in Dutch(?), regarding the **Harriet** (brig) The fourth document is a customs document, in French, that totals the charges the **Sarah** (bark) accumulated while in Guadeloupe.

Folder 3 contains the personal correspondence to Captain William Barnes. The letters range from 1829-1845. The letter dated June 12, 1829 is from Elijah Dickinson in Wilmington, North Carolina. The second letter, dated July 8, 1831 is a letter in which Parker Cobb is giving William Barnes detailed instructions on his next voyage aboard the **Liberator** (schooner). The next letter, dated November 18, 1839, is concerning Barnes' refusal to buy the **Angeline** *(*brig). The last group of letters contained in this file are letters from Magoun and Clapp, the owners of the vessels, giving instructions to Captain Barnes on what to buy and where to go to sell it.

Folder 4 contains shipping articles. It also contains two protests filed in Havana and New Bedford. The protests involve the brig **Angeline**.

Folder 5 contains the bill of health for the brig **Antioch**, 1838. It was inspected in Havana.

Folder 6 contains an account book of William Barnes. It includes the years 1825-1840. It has financial accounts of vessels including **Angeline** (brig) and **Harriet** (brig).

Folder 7 is the second account book of William Barnes. It contains his personal accounts from 1854-1861. After this the book was used again, by a different member of the Barnes family, from 1884 to 1917.

Folder 8 contains two newspaper clippings. Both the clippings are accounts of William Barnes' recollections of the U.S.S. **Enterprise** and her battle with the H.M.S. **Boxer** off the Maine coast in 1813. They are dated 1878.

Folder 9 contains two clippings from *Bickerstaff's General Almanac,* 1792, of tidal and moon charts. There are six pages in all, two leaves with four pages printed on each side.

**Container List**

Series I: Bagley Family Papers

Box 1

Folder 1 Journal of Laura M. Bagley, aboard **Levi C. Wade** (ship), 1880-1881 (L-16)
2 Log-book **Levi C. Wade** (ship), 1878-1879 (L-20)
3 Log-book **Levi C. Wade** (ship), 1879-1881 (L-10)
4 Crew and vessel account book, **Levi C. Wade** (ship), William H. Bagley, 1878-1881 (A-4.4)
5 Insurance papers, **Levi C. Wade** (ship), 1881-1887
6 Life insurance documents, William H. & Laura M. Bagley, 1885
7 Account book, William H. Bagley, **St. Cloud** (bark), personal, 1875-1877, and Sarah F. Bagley, personal, 1921-ca. 1950
8 Investments, Sarah F. (Bagley) Wright, 1922-1939

Series II: Barnes Family Papers

9 Incoming correspondence, William Barnes, 1824-1846
10 Incoming correspondence, Sarah F. Barnes, 1829-1852
11 Sight drafts, William Barnes, 1834-1844
12 Personal bills and receipts, 1828-1855
13 Manifests, William Barnes, 1834-1845
14 Misc. shipping documents, William Barnes, 1826-1835

Box 2

Folder 1 Letters of instruction, William Barnes, 1829-1845
2 **Angeline** (brig) protest, consular papers, shipping articles, 1841-1843
3 **Antioch** (brig) bill of health, 1838
4 Account book, William Barnes, vessel accounts, 1825-1854 (A-4.3)
5 Account book, William Barnes, vessel accounts, 1854-1868, other family members, personal accounts, 1883-1944 (A-4.2)
6 Newspaper accounts, 1878, 1883
7 *Bickerstaff's Genuine Boston Almanac*, 1792, fragment

Series III: Preble Family Papers

8 Preble land deeds, Woolwich, ME, 1810-1846

A. Added Entries

**Angeline** (brig)
**Antioch** (brig)
Bagley family
Bagley, William Henry, *Captain*
Bagley, Laura M. (Barnes)
Barnes family
Barnes, William, *Captain*
Barnes, Sarah F.
**Bordeaux** (schooner)
Bousfield, Sarah (Bagley) Wright
**Boxer** (British naval brig)
Burden, Charles E., *M.D.*
**Enterprise** (Naval brig)
**Harriet** (brig)
**John** (schooner)
**Levi C. Wade** (ship)
**Liberator** (schooner)
**Norway** (ship)
Preble family
**Sarah** (schooner)
Shipping
Ship captains
Ship captains' wives
**St. Cloud** (bark)
United States--History--War of 1812
**Volta** (schooner)
Women and the sea
Woolwich (ME)
Wright, Sarah (Bagley)